

Poverello Center, Inc.

food • shelter • help • hope

Board of Directors

January 30, 2009

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Health and Human Services Subcommittee

Letters of Support

Salcido Drop-In Center

*A program operated by
Poverello Center, Inc.
Missoula, Montana*

**Ellie Boldman Hill
Executive Director**

**P.O. Box 7644
535 Ryman
Missoula, MT
59807**

**Poverello Center, Inc. Est. 1974 (406) 728-1809
Joseph Residence, Est. 1991 (406) 549-6158 Valor House, Est. 2005 (406) 829-3928**



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

435 RYMAN MISSOULA, MONTANA 59802-4297

January 29, 2009

Chairwoman Teresa Henry

And Members of the Joint Health and Human Services Joint Subcommittee

Montana House of Representatives

PO Box 200400

Helena, MT 59620-0400

Sent via email and FAX to (406) 444-4825

Chairwoman Henry and Honorable Members of the Health and Human Services Joint Subcommittee:

Please consider the request from the staff of Missoula's Poverello Center for continuing funding for their Salcido Drop-in Center.

The center plays a vital role in Missoula, providing services to people who would not receive help otherwise. About 50 people use the drop-in center every day of the week. They are homeless people who suffer from co-occurring illnesses who are among our most vulnerable citizens. They are especially visible in downtown Missoula, where they are often seen as nuisances to the community, are at the mercy of weather and often become victims of crime. Before the center opened, many citizens requested services for these people, who cannot be served at Missoula's very busy shelter and kitchen, the Poverello Center, for the safety of other patrons.

The Salcido Drop-in Center is helping many of these individuals with recovery services and classes to help them integrate into the community and lead safer and more fulfilling lives.

The center is currently funded for two years for \$120,261, and the staff is requesting that you renew that same level of support. We support this request and hope you will too.

Sincerely,

Mayor John Engen

cc: Ellie Hill, Director, Poverello Center

Request From The Staff of Missoula's Poverello Center Poverello Center, Inc.

Esteemed Health and Human Services Subcommittee Member:

The City of Missoula as well its many partners and collaborators throughout Missoula County are respectfully requesting the legislature to continue funding for Missoula's Salcido Drop-in Center.

There are five Drop-in Center's in the state of Montana. Bozeman, Billings, and Miles City are currently funded under the Governor's base budget for the DPHHS, AMDD (Addictive Mental Disorders Division). The Helena and Missoula Drop-in Center's were funded under a two year Recovery from Mental Illness grant. Helena and Missoula's funding cycle discontinues on **June 30, 2009**.

It is critical that Missoula's Drop-in Center's annual funding be continued and folded into the DPHHS, AMDD base budget.

The Drop-in Center in Missoula is not a new program. The Missoula Drop-in Center is already open and now serving fifty (50) mentally ill, co-occurring homeless individuals seven days a week. These individuals were not and would not be served elsewhere in the region if the Drop-in Center is not funded. The Montanans served by the Drop-in Center are extremely vulnerable and/or nuisances to the community, particularly visible in the downtown area, and they are highly at-risk to weather elements and crime.

The current two year funding stream total is for \$120,261. We are asking that it continue.

Listed below you will find a list of program objectives in which the language has been taken directly from the grant. You can pick and choose what you use.

Program Objectives:

- The Salcido Drop-in Center provides a "no wrong door" for people in need of mental health care and alcohol and drug related services, i.e. co-occurring disorders.
- The Salcido Drop-in Center provides a safe and secure facility staffed with professionals trained to work with the co-occurring disorder populations, as well as access to numerous community partners.
- The Salcido Drop-in Center increases appropriate admissions to community detoxification facilities (such as SHARE House).
- The Salcido Drop-in Center decreases the costs related to utilization of St. Patrick's Hospital and Community Medical Center emergency departments for mental health and co-occurring substance use services.

- The Salcido Drop-in Center provides intervention for mental health issues to prevent potential incarceration.
- The Salcido Drop-in Center decreases the suicide rate in Missoula County.
- The Salcido Drop-in Center increases the effective use of County and State funding to meet the needs of more people.
- The data collected through the Salcido Drop-in Center (including Pathways and HMIS) increases our knowledge of the prevalence of mental illness with alcohol and drug related issues and help to build an effective service delivery system.
- The Salcido Drop-in Center increases community awareness and involvement in the utilization of available resources for those in need (the Poverello Center is consistently voted Missoula's Best Non Profit and benefits from thousands of volunteers.)
- The Salcido Drop-in Center is a collaboration of service providers, businesses and other resources which will collectively address the rapidly increasing co-occurring disorders population. Left untreated this population experiences more health related problems.
- The Salcido Drop-in Center increases options available for uninsured and underinsured people in the community to access mental health care that includes co-occurring treatment.
- The Salcido Drop-in Center provides a safe and secure environment for people who are not ready or able to stop using substances.
- The Salcido Drop-in Center reduces the negative impacts and consequences of substance use.
- The Salcido Drop-in Center helps individuals and families connect to housing and/or emergency shelter.
- The Salcido Drop-in Center provides ongoing opportunities for individuals to address substance use problems.
- The Salcido Drop-in Center helps individuals achieve abstinence; in others cases, the goal may be addiction management or reduced use.
- The Salcido Drop-in Center assists individuals in finding the resources they need to focus on recovery from mental illness and/or co-occurring disorders.
- The Salcido Drop-in Center adheres to the best practices of Drop-In Centers. It follows the ten (10) components of recovery as stated by the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

- The Salcido Drop-in Center provides a safe place for people to be social, share skills, solve problems and relax.

- The Salcido Drop-in Center provides coordination for group meetings and trainings from the following organizations, such as:

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA);
Dual Recovery Anonymous (DRA)
Gamblers Anonymous (GA);
Narcotics Anonymous (NA);
Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP); and

- The Salcido Drop-in Center partners with social service agencies and actively facilitate referrals for all people.

- The Salcido Drop-in Center provides classes that help people integrate into the community and improve life skills (such as computer proficiency, job preparedness, sewing, knitting, art, music etc).

TARGETED POPULATION

The Salcido Drop-in Center serves the recovery needs of adults with mental illnesses and co-occurring substance abuse issues. Children are permitted when accompanied by parent or legal guardian.

The Salcido Drop-in Center does not exclude any individuals from mental health services solely due to existence or suspicion of substance abuse, or mental illness, nor does it exclude any individual from substance abuse services due to mental illness.

Consumer-Peer Services

Consumers-peer services are an integral component of the Salcido Drop-in Center.

Hours of Operation

Salcido Drop-in Center's hours of operation:

Sunday	7:30 am – 6:30 pm
Monday	7:30 am – 6:30 pm
Tuesday	7:30 am – 6:30 pm
Wednesday	7:30 am – 6:30 pm
Thursday	7:30 am – 6:30 pm
Friday	7:30 am – 6:30 pm
Saturday	7:30 am – 5:30 pm

Missoula
County

United
Way



January 29, 2009

To the Members of the **Health and Human Services
Subcommittee:**

United Way of Missoula County joins many partners and collaborators throughout Missoula County in respectfully asking the legislature to continue funding for Missoula's Salcido Drop-in Center, a program operated by the Poverello Center, Inc.

There are five Drop-in Centers in the state of Montana. Bozeman, Billings, and Miles City are currently funded under the Governor's base budget for the DPHHS, AMDD (Addictive Mental Disorders Division). The Helena and Missoula Drop-in Centers were funded under a two year Recovery from Mental Illness grant. Helena and Missoula's funding cycles discontinue on **June 30, 2009. It is critical that Missoula's Drop-in Center's annual funding be continued and folded into the DPHHS, AMDD base budget.**

The Salcido Center has become a vital part of the quality of life for many residents of Missoula. An average of 50 clients per day use the Center's services. These are individuals with co-occurring mental illness, in addition to chronically homeless people.

The Center increases the effective use of County and State funding to meet the needs of more people. Providing a safe, warm, dry place to congregate and socialize while being offered a monthly calendar of educational classes. The classes are offered on a weekly basis and help individuals to integrate into the community and improve their life skills. Examples include training and classes in computer literacy, job preparedness, financial literacy, sewing, art, music, etc. The Missoula Drop-in Center also provides coordination for group meetings and trainings from the following organizations:

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)
Dual Recovery Anonymous (DRA)
Gamblers Anonymous (GA)
Narcotics Anonymous (NA)
Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP)

The individuals utilizing the Missoula Drop-In Center historically have had an highly visible presence in downtown Missoula and at times can cause frustration and even fear among business owners and their patrons. The Center provides a "no wrong door" for

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Sina Wilson/United Way
of Ravalli County
itter Root Disposal

people in need of mental health care and alcohol and drug related services; i.e., co-occurring disorders. The Missoula Drop-in Center reduces the negative impacts and consequences of substance use. It provides a safe and secure facility staffed with professionals trained to work with the co-occurring disorder populations, as well as access to numerous community partners.

The Drop-in Center in Missoula is an existing program. The Montanans served by the Center are extremely vulnerable and are highly at risk to weather elements and crime. The current two-year funding stream total is for \$120,261.

Please ensure that this vital Drop-In Center has a long life in Missoula County. I welcome the opportunity to provide any additional information that might be helpful to your deliberations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Hay Cramer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Susan Hay Cramer
Chief Executive Officer



Partnership Health Center

MISSOULA'S COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

January 29, 2008

Esteemed Members of the **Health and Human Services Subcommittee:**

Partnership Health Center, as well as many partners and collaborators throughout Missoula County are respectfully requesting the legislature to continue funding for Missoula's Salcido Drop-in Center, a program operated by the Poverello Center, Inc.

There are five Drop-in Centers in the state of Montana. Bozeman, Billings, and Miles City are currently funded under the Governor's base budget for the DPHHS, AMDD (Addictive Mental Disorders Division). The Helena and Missoula Drop-in Center's were funded under a two year Recovery from Mental Illness grant. Helena and Missoula's funding cycles discontinue on **June 30, 2009**. It is critical that Missoula's Drop-in Center's annual funding be continued and folded into the DPHHS, AMDD base budget.

The Drop-In Center has become a vital part of the quality of life for residents of Missoula. An average of 50 clients per day utilize the Center's services. These are individuals with co-occurring mental illness, in addition to the chronically homeless.

Partnership Health Center is the recipient of Healthcare for the Homeless funds and holds and a medical clinic at the Poverello Center. The Salcido drop-in center has already proven itself to be a critical access point for clients in need of medical care. Additionally, they have already been successful and helping people to stabilize in a non-judgmental and supportive atmosphere, leading to a number of people taking first steps towards recovery. The drop-in center is the ideal model for helping people who are trying to improve their health to find extended resources and the support they need to make lasting changes.

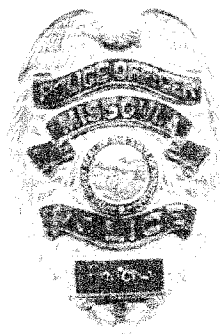
We work closely with the excellent staff and admire their professionalism in working with clients who often have nowhere else to go. The Center provides a "no wrong door" for people in need of mental health care and alcohol and drug related services, i.e. co-occurring disorders. The Missoula Drop-in Center

reduces the negative impacts and consequences of substance use. The Center is a safe and secure facility staffed with professionals trained to work with the co-occurring disorder populations, as well as access to numerous community partners. In addition, the Center increases appropriate admissions to community detoxification facilities (such as SHARE House) and decreases the suicide rate in Missoula. Data collected from the Salcido Drop-in Center (including Pathways and HMIS) increases our knowledge of the prevalence of mental illness occurring with alcohol and drug related issues and helps to build an effective service delivery system. The Center is a collaboration of service providers, businesses and other resources which will collectively address the rapidly increasing co-occurring disorders population. Left untreated this population experiences more health related problems.

The Drop-in Center in Missoula is an existing program. The Montanans served by the Center are extremely vulnerable and are highly at-risk for theft, violence, and health complications resulting from exposure. The current two year funding stream total is for \$120,261. As the administrator of the Healthcare for the Homeless program I implore you to ensure that the Missoula Drop-In Center has a long life in Missoula County.

Sincerely,

Mary Jane Nealon, RN, MFA
Director of Program Development



Missoula Police Department

435 Ryman Street, Missoula, MT 59802-4297

From the Desk of Mark Muir

Phone : (406)-552-6316 Fax: (406) 728-6690

mmuir@ci.missoula.mt.us

January 28, 2009

Esteemed Health and Human Services Committee Member:

The Missoula Police Department urges your support to provide continuing funding for Missoula's Drop-In Center. There are five Drop-In Center's in the state of Montana. Bozeman, Billings, and Miles City are currently funded under the Governor's base budget for the DPHHS, AMDD (Addictive Mental Disorders Division). The Helena and Missoula Drop-In Center's were funded under a two year Recovery from Mental Illness grant. Both Helena and Missoula's funding cycle ends **June 30, 2009**.

The Missoula Drop-In Center has created a safe, warm, dry place for individuals with co-occurring mental illness to congregate and receive much needed services. Without the existence of this center, this population has historically been an problematic presence in the downtown area of Missoula, creating problems for patrons of downtown business, panhandling, public intoxication and raising fear of crime. Until the Poverello Center, Inc. opened the doors of the center officers had very limited options when dealing with these individuals and left wholly challenged by the duty of care but services available. Frequent outcomes ranged from City Hall benches to the local jail. The center fills a much needed gap in services within our region and we as a community have come to rely on its presence.

Specifically the Missoula Police Department has identified the following list to demonstrate the effectiveness of the Missoula Drop-In Center:

- The Drop-in Center provides a "no wrong door" for people in need of mental health care and alcohol and drug related services, i.e. co-occurring disorders.
- The Drop-in Center increases appropriate admissions to community detoxification facilities (such as SHARE House).
- The Drop-in Center provides intervention for mental health issues to prevent potential incarceration.
- The Drop-in Center increases community awareness and involvement in the utilization of available resources for those in need (the Poverello Center is

consistently voted Missoula's Best Non Profit and benefits from thousands of volunteers.)

- The Drop-in Center helps individuals and families connect to housing and/or emergency shelter.
- The Drop-in Center assists individuals in finding the resources they need to focus on recovery from mental illness and/or co-occurring disorders.

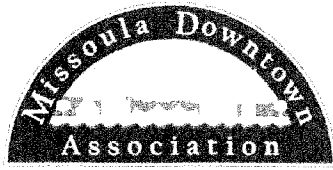
This center is essential to the quality of life for Missoula residents and the efficient service delivery of the police department. Officers now have a positive option for those individuals that are creating a nuisance to downtown visitors.

Please support funding for the Salcido Drop-in Center in the Missoula community.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark Muir".

Mark Muir
Chief of Police



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John Horner
First Interstate Bank

Vice President-Marketing & Events
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Deidre Haggerty
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Jennifer Williamson

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January 29, 2009

Chairman Teresa Henry & Fellow Members
Health and Human Services Subcommittee
State of Montana

On behalf of the Missoula Downtown Association Board of Directors and its more than 450 members, we encourage you to allocate funding for the Salcido Drop-In Center in Missoula. This new facility, housed in the First Baptists Church on West Pine Street in Downtown, has been a tremendous asset for the Missoula community, providing a safe, warm place for homeless individuals and a variety of outstanding and necessary services for these chronically poor and oftentimes mentally-ill individuals in need of healthcare and/or addiction services. The Salcido Center has become a vital contributor to the quality of life in our community, as nearly 50 homeless individuals use its services each day.

As you know, Montana has drop-in centers in five communities. The centers in Billings, Bozeman and Miles City are currently funded under the Governor's base budget for the DPHHS, AMDD (Addictive Mental Disorders Division). The Helena and Missoula facilities were initially funded in 2007 under a two-year grant which terminates in five months. It is critical for you to include these drop-in centers into the DPHHS, AMDD base budget.

The Salcido Center increases the effective use of county, state and private funding to meet the needs of more people by providing a professionally-trained staff to work with those who have co-occurring disorders and need mental healthcare and substance abuse services. Under the direction of Missoula's Poverello Center, which is unable to provide day-time services to these individuals, the Salcido Center provides a welcoming environment to congregate and socialize, as well as regularly-scheduled educational courses to improve life skills and help these individuals integrate into the community. It also provides coordination and location for group meetings and trainings from the following organizations:

- Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)
- Dual Recovery Anonymous (DRA)
- Gamblers Anonymous (GA)
- Narcotics Anonymous (NA)
- Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP)

By providing a place for our homeless folks to spend time and do productive things with their time, we have seen a reduction in the amount of public intoxication, urination and fornication happening on the streets of Downtown Missoula. That improves the quality of life for all of us.

Montanans served by the Salcido Center are extremely vulnerable, and they need our assistance and support. Please provide the necessary funding to keep the Salcido Center open. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Linda K. McCarthy
On Behalf of the Missoula Downtown Association